

the wire entanglement, a dead shell dropped within 15 feet of them. They had the scare but no casualties.

Master Engineer Ledbetter's section working on the observation post at G15 a.5.9 had some narrow escapes. A shell exploded near them and dropped shrapnel on the board where they had been mixing concrete just a minute before. They had all ducked when the shell whistled. One of our men was scratched slightly on the hand with a bit of shrapnel. No other casualties.

We reached Captain Myers' camp at Guant (Gwent) Farm G28 a.1.9, about 1:15 p. m. in time for dinner, which we both enjoyed very much. We found the auto there awaiting us. Right after dinner we were swapping experiences and Lieutenant R. M. Williams seemed to have had the most narrow escapes. This same morning he had gone down toward the support line of the East Poperinghe Line to see where the 117th and 118th Infantry were working. He had just left (about 200 yards from shelter 23) Lieutenant Dunbar (Supply Officer) of the 117th Infantry, with whom he had been talking, when he heard a shell singing in the air. He dropped down flat in the trench and after the shell had hit and exploded, he found that it had killed Lieutenant Dunbar and wounded several privates of the 117th.

There are several Observation Balloons located around the camp at Guant Farm and frequently they are shelled by the Germans. They fire time fuse shells which explode as they reach the vicinity of the balloon and scatter shrapnel in all directions. They occasionally hit the balloon but much oftener do not. All this shrapnel, however, has to fall to the ground, and there are more casualties amongst the soldiers on the ground than to the men in the balloons. During and right after dinner the Germans were shelling two balloons near the camp. We could hear the shell coming and hear it explode. We could also see the smoke indicating the place where the shell exploded. The shells seemed to be exploding at such a distance that the shrapnel would not fall near us. Colonel Ferguson, Captain Myers, Lieutenants R. M. Williams, D. M. Williams, McLeod and Sill and myself were all standing outside the mess room, when a shell exploded in the air near one of the balloons, but no shrapnel fell near us. All the others but Lieutenants D. M. Williams and McLeod and myself moved down to the end of Captain Myers' hut. We three were